XLIV. *Extract of a Letter from* Rome, *to* M. Maty, *M.D. Sec. R. S. on the extraordinary Heats obſerved there this laſt Summer.*

Rome, Auguſt 27, 1768.

Read December 15, 1768. AS I remember, when Mr. M— was here, he ſeemed deſirous to aſcertain the degrees of heat and cold; I cannot help mentioning the exceſſive heat of this ſummer, which is much greater than has been known in Rome for many years. Friday, the 19th inſtant, the mercury in a well-regulated thermometer according to Fahrenheit's ſcale, expoſed at a North window, where there was no ſun and very little reflection, ſtood from ten o'clock in the morning until about five in the evening at ninety-nine. About half an hour after ſunſet it fell to ninety, and at midnight was fallen to eighty-five, where it remained all night. This is the hotteſt day we have had, but for theſe three weeks paſt at midday the mercury has been always above ninety four, and at midnight ſeldom under eighty-three, which is the more extraordinary as I do not remember to have obſerved any other ſummer above eighty-nine at midday, nor above ſeventy-five at midnight. Notwithſtanding this great heat, there was never a more healthy ſummer at Rome; all the hoſpitals are almoſt empty.

James Byres.

XLV. *An*